

MEMORANDUM

TO: Joseph M. Pennell  
Chief of Police

FROM: P. Kevin Smith  
Patrol Lieutenant

SUBJ: Police Academy Training on  
"The Use Of Deadly Force"

December 24, 1986

Sir,

This report is intended as documentation of the fact that the recruits of the 77th Wilmington Police Academy have received sixteen hours of training in the use of deadly force. The curriculum content focused on the decision making process by providing the recruits with a thorough explanation of Title 11, Section 467, Directives 6.21, 7.3, and 7.9. Additionally, each recruit participated in a series of practical exercises to test their ability to make deadly force decisions under stress. The major topics covered were divided into the following blocks of instruction:

- Part I - Introduction
- Part II - History
- Part III - The Legal Issues
- Part IV - Deadly Force Decisions (Exercise)
- Part V - Officer Judgment
- Part VI - The Impact Of A Police Shooting
- Part VII - Shoot / Don't Shoot (Exercise)
- Part VIII - Critique Of Shooting Decision

In an effort to confirm receipt of the above training on this delicate issue, I have composed the following statement of understanding:

"As a law enforcement officer, I have been charged by the State of Delaware and City of Wilmington to carry a firearm for the protection of the community and for my self defense. I recognize that this great responsibility requires constant training and understanding of the community's desire for law enforcement. I acknowledge that it is my duty to attempt to make an arrest without violence and with no more force than necessary. I will make every effort to arrest without the use of firearms where the offender creates no danger of serious injury or death to myself or to others. I will not fire my weapon at the risk of endangering citizens, even when fired upon. I further understand that it may even be necessary to allow the offender's escape rather than endanger any fellow officer or citizen."

DATE: 29 DEC 86

RECRUIT SIGNATURE

John F. Antello 57/515

P. Kevin Smith  
INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE

CONFIDENTIAL

W001071

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RECRUIT SIGNATURE

*Thomas C. Dempsey 5/15/41*

P. Kevin Smith  
INSTRUCTOR'S SIGNATURE

CONFIDENTIAL

W001724